

hope

INDIA

WINTER 2008
VOL. 13



A Leper Love Story

Laboring Through Conflict

RESPONDING TO
PERSECUTION
THE JESUS WAY

A CHAPEL MISSIONS PUBLICATION
International Outreaches of Calvary Chapel Boise

FROM IDAHO TO INDIA WITH THE HOPE OF CHRIST

CURRENTLY SUPPORTING:

Bible College Students
15 full time / 160 part time

Church Planting
77 churches & 41 homes

Village Outreaches
370 locations

Homes of Hope
8 locations (450 children)

Children's Centers
55 locations (2,800 children)

Boarding Schools
7 locations (102 students)

Vacation Bible School
90,000 children per year

Gujarat Outreach
85 children

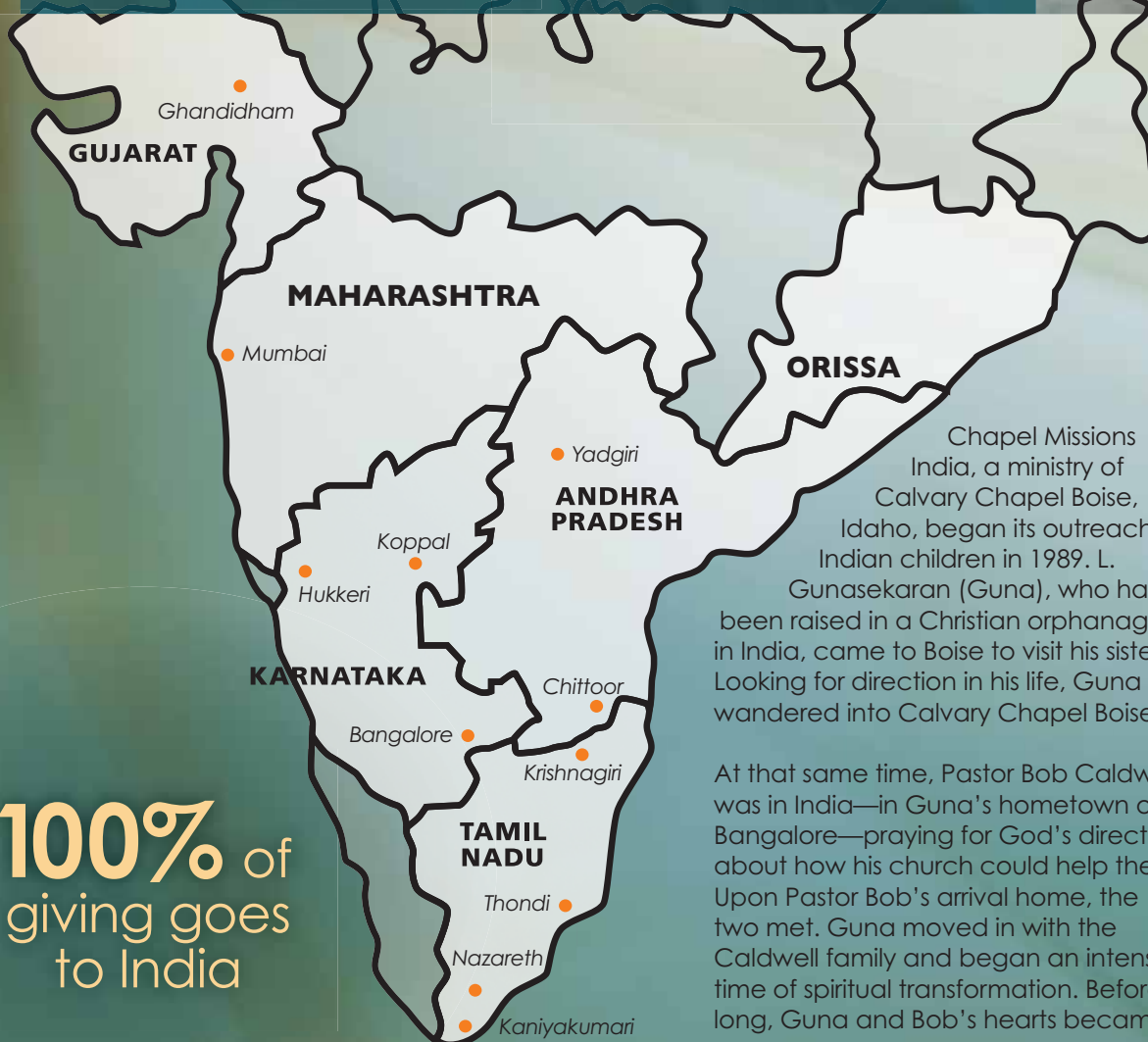
Medical Services
2 clinics, 1 mobile unit,
leprosy outreach, annual
health camp (4000 patients)

HIV/AIDS Family Care
1 hospice facility,
200 families (681 people)

Krishnagiri Lepers
(200 people)

TV Program
"God" Channel Bangalore

Pastors, Evangelists & Staff
170 native men and women



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100% of giving goes to India

Chapel Missions India, a ministry of Calvary Chapel Boise, Idaho, began its outreach to Indian children in 1989. L. Gunasekaran (Guna), who had been raised in a Christian orphanage in India, came to Boise to visit his sister. Looking for direction in his life, Guna wandered into Calvary Chapel Boise.

At that same time, Pastor Bob Caldwell was in India—in Guna's hometown of Bangalore—praying for God's direction about how his church could help there. Upon Pastor Bob's arrival home, the two met. Guna moved in with the Caldwell family and began an intense time of spiritual transformation. Before long, Guna and Bob's hearts became

united in a shared passion to work together to bring Christ to the slums and villages of India.

Since then God has opened tremendous doors to reach out to some of the most unreached people on earth. By the amazing personal sacrifices of a growing army of evangelists and pastors, churches are springing up in many regions throughout India. Their work among the poorest of the poor has also resulted in the development of orphanages for abandoned children.

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Hope is a free semi-annual publication and is an outreach of Calvary Chapel Boise, Idaho. Offices are located at 123 Auto Drive. Contributors can be contacted at 208.321.7440 or via e-mail at office@ccboise.org.

Additional copies are available for your church fellowship upon request. If you are interested, please call 208.321.7440 or e-mail office@ccboise.org.

From the Editor

"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." -James 5:16

Boy, what an amazing promise? I know I'm righteous, not because of anything I've done, but because of what Jesus did for me...so I guess this verse in the Book of James applies to me.

Since taking on more responsibilities with CMI this year I've HAD to pray more and now I'm asking myself, "Why haven't I prayed like this all along?" I must have been crazy! I'm sure I've missed out on so much. God loves to answer our prayers – especially when they are directed toward the needs of others. I'm reminded that since Jesus lives to intercede for me before the Father, then I can relax and simply intercede for others.

I really enjoy watching God move in response to prayer and I want to thank those of you who faithfully pray for Chapel Missions India. I truly feel as if I've found a hidden treasure chest full of amazing riches in this thrilling life



of intercession. Care to join me? If you would like to be on our "Pray for India" email prayer chain list contact me at lphillips@ccboise.org.

Lauren
Editor, HOPE



A Word from Pastor Bob

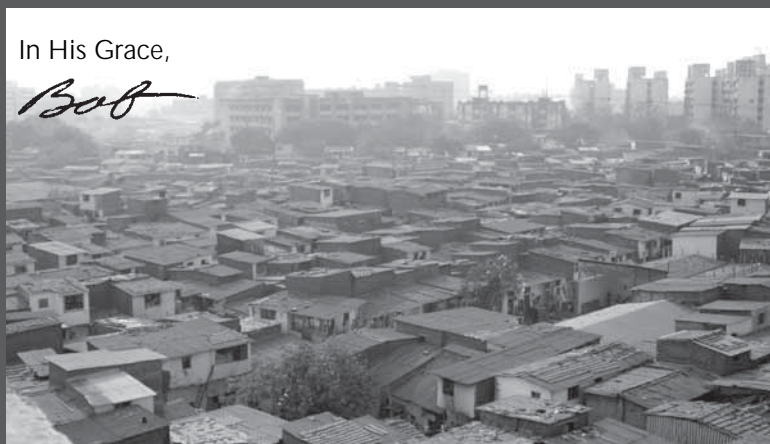
My first visit to an inner city slum in India left an impact upon my heart that I've never forgotten or regretted. Seared upon my mind are images of children; some working in front of their one-room slum hut making incense sticks, others gambling on dirt paths next to open sewage drains, others just outside the entrance of the slum begging from wealthier passersby. Almost every child I saw had open sores and cuts that their torn and dirty clothes couldn't cover. None of these children went to school. It was as if their destiny and futures were already written and I knew that they would continue on this path of poverty into which they were born. Their destiny apart from Christ was evident unless someone chose to break into their world. So began our efforts to penetrate the dark world of India's slum children.

Since our first Children's Center began in our first slum outreach 19 years ago, thousands of children have let us into their world. We, in turn, have pointed them toward a better one – the Kingdom of God. Through these centers they've learned first and foremost their value before God. Many have joined our educational tutoring program meeting with us for daily tutoring which has given them the courage to attend school. Through the personal attention and love given to them by our staff they have also found a haven amidst the difficulties of the slum where they can joyfully worship, sing, dance, and pray. Many of these children have gone on to create thriving youth groups in their slums. Others have moved into higher education and the ministry. An amazing outcome we hadn't expected is to see many churches birthed in the slums through simple compassion shown to the children. Their grateful parents ask, "Why?" which gives us the opportunity to share the riches of Christ with the entire community.

For some, a slum is a social tragedy. They walk on past, shaking their heads, disgusted. For others it's an opportunity for the glory of God to be made manifest in this fallen world. Please join us in prayer asking God to keep each center open and for the ability to begin many more centers where Christ is not yet known.

In His Grace,

Bob



Cathy's Corner

Love is the Key. This quote has always been a favorite of mine, because from the earliest days of our married life, I have found it written on my husband's study notes, scraps of paper by the telephone, in the margins of his Bible, and sundry other places. I have grown to appreciate these words more and more the longer that I walk with Jesus. These simple words reflect the heart of our God whose very essence is love. We all know and have probably memorized, at one time or another, that familiar chapter on love, 1 Corinthians 13. In it, Paul says that LOVE is the greatest thing, and he so beautifully describes what the love of God looks like. He goes on to say that without love as the driving force in our life, everything else is meaningless. How easy it is to forget even as we go about our Father's business.

As I have been able to share in this amazing ministry to India over the past 19 years, the one chord that strikes my heart over and over again is that we have the

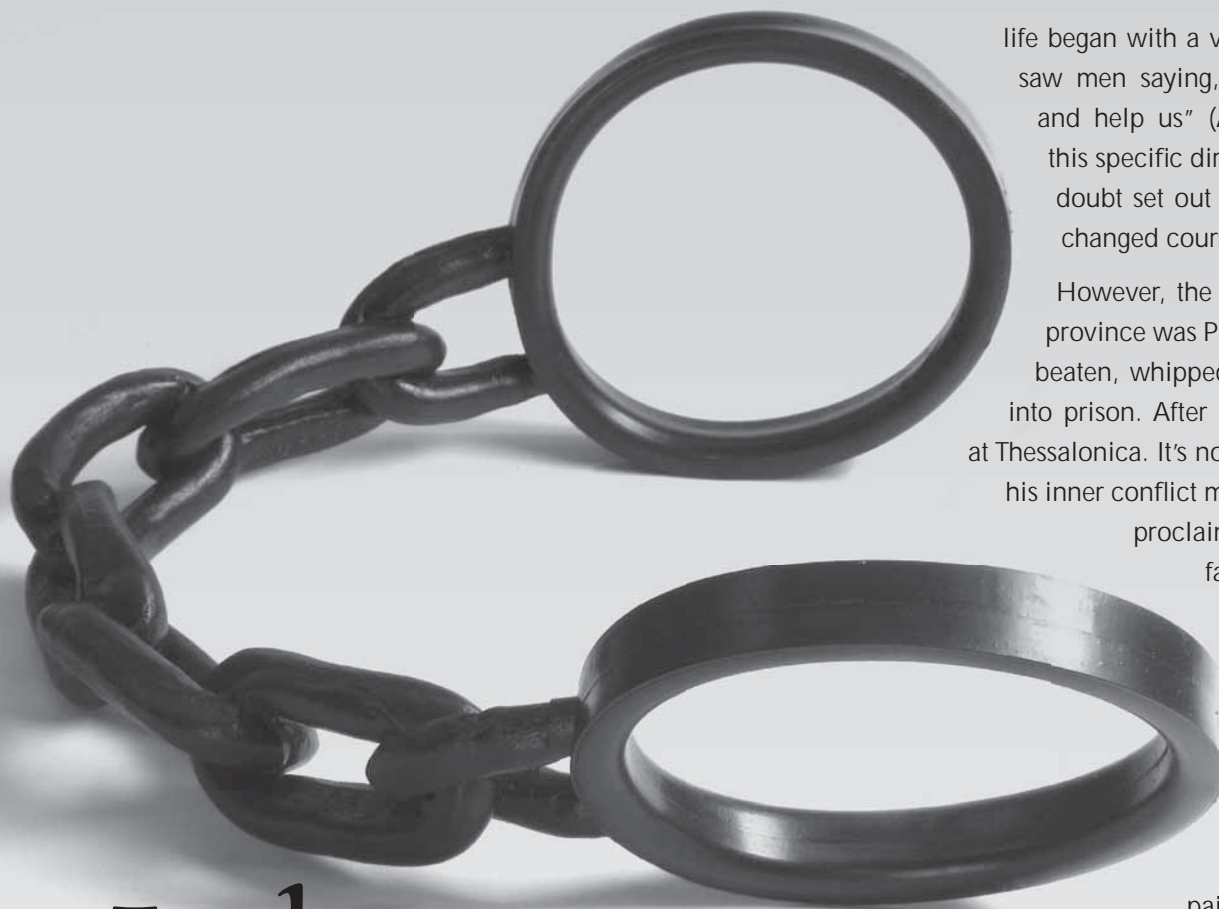
...without love being the driving force in our life, everything else is meaningless.

privilege to share in the very heart of God; how He loves the poor, the defenseless, the brokenhearted, the widow and the orphan. He sees them and He cares about them. If God's eye is on the sparrow, how much more so is He mindful of His people that He laid His life down for? To our Father, helping and caring for those whom He loves is the most spiritual thing we can do. It is so easy to lose sight of that.

Jesus, please protect us from becoming like the priests who saw the hurt man battered and bruised, but didn't respond to his need. Let us have Your heart. In a world that is filled with needy people, may our Father continually remind us that love is the key.

In His Love,

Cathy



Laboring Through Conflict

BY PASTOR BOB CALDWELL

"For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain. But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict." 1 Thessalonians 2:1-2

Paul's statement in the passage above should be a great encouragement to each one of us who minister on Christ's behalf. Paul was confident that his work of ministry among the people who lived in Thessalonica was not in vain.

We know from chapter one of 1 Thessalonians that this new church was known for their work of faith, love, and patient hope, and was a church that "sounded forth" the good news of Christ not only in their own province of Macedonia but in neighboring Achaia as well. These characteristics would not have described this church if Paul had not been able to overcome a personal inner conflict before arriving in Thessalonica. What led up to this intense conflict in Paul's

life began with a vision he had been given. He saw men saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us" (Acts 16:6-9). After receiving this specific direction from the Lord, Paul no doubt set out with great expectation as he changed course toward Macedonia.

However, the first city Paul reached in the province was Philippi where he was severely beaten, whipped, put in chains, and thrown into prison. After his release he finally arrived at Thessalonica. It's not a far stretch to imagine that his inner conflict may have been a fear of boldly

proclaiming Christ there; a fear that faithfulness to the ministry God had directed him toward would result in more violence, painful rejection, and shame.

Ungodly fear can cause us to justify an approach to ministry that avoids personal pain and suffering, making our ministry a false shell; something of little

value in the eyes of God or in light of eternity. We may not look forward to facing financial uncertainty or being sent to a place where we cannot anticipate great results; ministering may cost us many sleepless nights, tears, or a heavy workload among difficult people; we may not want to fully pick up our personal cross; we may struggle with laying down our own dreams and plans – plans that may not include complete denial of self. Our own inner fears may ultimately be the greatest hindrance to effective ministry.

UNGODLY FEAR CAN CAUSE US TO JUSTIFY AN APPROACH TO MINISTRY THAT AVOIDS PERSONAL PAIN AND SUFFERING.

Let us, however, be men and women who, like Paul, choose to die to ourselves daily. Let us make it our aim to find fellowship in Christ's sufferings. Let us become living sacrifices for Christ. It certainly is a conflict, a war of the soul, we must be willing to endure in order to have a fruitful ministry that is pleasing to God. It is only because Paul came in "much conflict" to Thessalonica that his work was not in vain. He pushed through his fears and self-serving interests and followed in the footsteps of his Master.

I am certain that lasting fruit will, in some way, require an inner conflict. It may come from the devil, a fallen world, religious compromise, or our own self-idolatry, but we can expect conflict to stand between us and lasting fruit. But be encouraged; victory is ours through Christ when we face conflicts with faith, love, and patient hope. Therefore, let us, dear brothers and sisters, fight this good fight of faith through the conflicts of our lives.



A Leper Love Story: Spanning Miles and Generations

BY COLLEEN MAILE

Chelsea's a senior at Boise High. Emily studies nursing at Boise State. Alyssa recently relinquished her Miss Idaho International title. Ask them about the highlight of their summer break '08 and they'll agree it was the lepers. Meeting Amah, the grandmotherly woman, and her friends, who despite knobby thumbs and missing fingers dressed the young Americans in saris, wove jasmine into their hair, and painted their eyebrows, was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



The girls were part of the Engage India Tour, a two-week trek to Chapel Missions' programs including the Ghandi Nagar leper colony, near the small village of Nachikuppum. There, they and other team members spent two days digging an

earthen "sink" and lining it with stones. It will serve as a laundry in a country where village people still wash their clothes by beating them against rocks.

When the work was over, the colony's ladies invited the girls into a meager home—no bigger than the average American walk-in closet. There, they wrapped and pinned the young Americans into their very own wedding saris. The lepers spoke only Tamil, limiting communication to hand-motions, smiles, hugs, and laughter. At the end of the day, everyone wept. The girls were deeply touched by a people who from Bible times to the present age have been deemed "untouchable."

This unusual interaction between lepers and the outside world provided Amah and the others with a commodity solely lacking in their community—hope for acceptance by a younger generation.

Lepers no longer have to beg for food. Nor need they fear the disease's ravages. It's easily treatable now. Even leprosy's contagious properties are held at bay by medical advances. Still, the term remains synonymous with "outcast." The condition continues to carry a stigma—one that is particularly difficult for the healthy children of lepers to bear.

In caste-conscious India, lepers exist at the bottom of the pecking order. They are shunned by society in general and healthy family members in particular. In many cases sick individuals try to hide the disease rather than seek help. For the afflicted who do acknowledge the condition, government-subsidized leper colonies provide basic sustenance and rudimentary housing. In these communities, lepers care for themselves and their homes. They meet with others suffering from the same condition, get married, and have children.

Those children bring immense joy and, too often, great despair. Indian customs hold that the younger generation take care of the parents. The rejection of a child causes tremendous emotional suffering.

Children are at the heart of Chapel Missions' work in the Ghandi Nagar Colony. The first outreach established a Children's Center to provide help with schoolwork—and to share the gospel. Through the kids, adults came to know the Lord. One became the pastor of a small Calvary Chapel. Believers now reach out to their Hindu neighbors with the Good News of Christ's salvation. They offer practical help

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES TOUCHED BY LEPROSY TO BE HEALED EMOTIONALLY BY THE LOVE OF CHRIST.

too. A brother in Boise, Idaho, Pete Bugayong, collects loose change to supplement the government's food provisions. Clothes are also supplied. But the greatest gift they can give their neighbors is the hope that the love of Christ will cause children to "honor their parents"—even parents with leprosy.





Go & Do the Same

BY STEVE REAMES

"See that man over there, in the white shirt?" Pastor Guna discreetly pointed out a 35-year-old mustachioed man flanked by two other beefy guys. It was the last of six days of medical work that Calvary Chapel Trust and Genesis World Mission collaborated on. The man was the third to the last patient seen during our two weeks in January in southern India. "I'm really surprised he is here," said Guna.

Guna and I moved to a quieter location where he elaborated, "He's the neighborhood Hindu gang leader here. He's had several people murdered without consequence." Guna told how the gang had threatened him and protested when the Home of Hope orphanage first moved into the Banashankari district of Bangalore. Today, he'd come for free medical care, along with his henchmen, because he'd heard good reports of the service being provided to the poorest of the poor in the slums of Bangalore.

The gospel message going forth through the hands and stethoscopes of the 15 physicians, nurses, and assistants that day was this, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Because of this medical ministry and other outreaches into poor communities, this attitude continues to go forth through the ministers of Calvary Chapel Trust. As our team served in Bangalore and Nazareth at Heaven's Gate, we were most impressed with the kindness and compassion of God's people.

One of the men we treated came from the eunuch caste – estimated to be between 50,000 and one million members. They are not just untouchables – they are hirjas, "the invisibles." Their caste is sustained when boys born with a male defect are "donated" to the eunuch society; others are sometimes forcibly castrated. They receive no recognition in public life and their only means of support is to arrive uninvited at weddings or family events to dance and sing until the hosts pay them to go away. In this man's case, he was forced into male prostitution so it was no surprise that his HIV test came back positive. When asked why he didn't quit prostituting himself he said, "Because my caste brothers would hunt me down and kill me."

When Pastor Guna comes in contact with someone like this or has to break the news to someone that they are HIV positive, he reaches out to them. Instead of pushing them away from the church, he draws them in by giving them a reason to be near God's people. Most of the workers in the





In the Church's earliest days, Jesus' followers were mockingly called "Christians" because they responded to rebuke, ridicule, and persecution with the gentleness that characterized their Lord. It's easy to read about those saints, but much harder to follow their example. Yet, that's what countless Christians throughout the world are called to do every day. Consider the recent events affecting Christ's church in India.

As early as July 2008, we began to hear stories of radical Hindus taking to the streets targeting Christian churches. Then on August 23, Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati, leader of the powerful Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) was assassinated in the Kandhamal district of Orissa by Maoist Communists. Adherents of the VHP, who view followers of all non-Indian-based religions as traitors of the worst kind, retaliated with a fury born of hatred against all Christians. Entire villages were burned and people scattered to the jungles with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Pastors, priests, and nuns were beaten, left for dead, set on fire, or cut to pieces by frenzied Hindu fanatics. Christian-run orphanages, hospitals, and schools were ransacked. While the terror spread, the mainstream news was mute. Word began to spread through agencies such as World

Vision, Gospel for Asia, and the Catholic Church. L. Gunasekaran, director of Chapel Missions India, was called upon by believers to come to Orissa to help. Out of the three Calvary Chapel churches established in the district of Rayaguda, Orissa, Guna reports that, "Two house churches can no longer meet together, and one church building was destroyed, but the believers are safe."

On September 4, Pastor Guna and four brothers set out for the Gajapati district in Orissa. There they met a group of Christians who told them what was happening and agreed to fast and pray with them. The next day Guna and his team went into action following the lead of the Holy Spirit through the jungles of Orissa. They found that many were still in hiding or were living in meagerly supplied government relief camps. They met some who told them how their village had been viciously attacked – their church bombed with homemade hand grenades; their homes and shops set on fire. Guna and his team brought food, clothing, and bedding to these desperate people.

All in all, 19 villages were visited. The Calvary Chapel workers heard more tales of terror. Many Guna spoke to wanted to retaliate against the Hindu fanatics but he urged them not to; instead he implored them to act like Christ. While Guna and his men brought much needed supplies, encouragement, and prayer to hundreds, there is still much to be done. They need food, medicine, a place to live, and the very basic necessities to create a new life.



It's Pastor Guna's desire that the Christians of Calvary Chapel stand firm in their faith and not waiver amidst government and radical Hindu threats and re-conversion bribes...they are not to retaliate with violence, but through prayer and righteous living be a witness for Christ.



Guna reports that Hindu re-conversion activists are fast at work targeting the vulnerable with bribes of new homes and belongings if they will only reconvert to Hinduism. Those who do are made to drink *gomutra* (cow urine) as a re-initiation into Hinduism and some are induced to set Christian homes and churches on fire as a test of their allegiance.

Before returning to his responsibilities in Bangalore, Guna arranged for 150 children from the relief camps to be placed in a Christian hostel in a nearby city where they would be relatively safe and financially supported by Calvary Chapel. Guna's team stayed on in Orissa for another two weeks encouraging many.

Upon arriving back home, Guna found himself in the midst of mounting aggression towards Christians in Bangalore too. Calvary Chapel in the Nayandahalli slum was destroyed. But, instead of retaliating or reporting this to the local police, the believers of Pastor Godson's church simply went to work restoring the walls. At Guna's church in the Manjunatha Colony slum, threats were supposedly intercepted by local police so government officials posted an officer at the church. This is somewhat of a mixed blessing. While there is protection, there is also someone there to report back to the authorities the activities at the church. Three of our larger key churches are being watched in this manner. Guna says that, "The government wants all Christian churches

to be registered in order to stay open. If we do this we must report the names of all who have been baptized." Guna refuses to report nearly 5,000 believers so Calvary's churches remain unregistered.

It's Pastor Guna's desire that the Christians of Calvary Chapel stand firm in their faith and not waiver amidst government and radical Hindu threats and re-conversion bribes. He also believes that they are not to retaliate with violence, but through prayer and righteous living be a witness for Christ. He encourages them to remember that when Jesus was lead like a lamb to the slaughter and was nailed to that wicked cross He said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they're doing."

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in India who face such horrible persecution at the hand of those animated by the prince of this world. Pray for strength in the face of adversity, for the multiplication of the church through the godly example of the true followers of Christ, and above all, pray for the enemies of Christ, for they truly don't know what they are doing.

Divine Appointment - Divine Opportunities

BY COLLEEN MAILE



On a clear August night outside the south Indian village of Nazareth, a cavalcade of official state vehicles barreled down the dirt road to a former Catholic seminary. More cars carried members of the Indian press corps. The auspicious evening heralded the dedication of the re-vamped seminary and a nearby facility. Both Heaven's Gate Nazareth for boys and Eden for girls were officially recognized as Homes of Hope devoted to the care of children with lives shredded by AIDS. Ribbon cuttings were followed by a parade of speakers all saluting the importance of the work. This was no ordinary

government function. It was the state's acknowledgment of a vital outreach of Chapel Missions India.

On that August night, the dignitaries shared the stage with Cathy Caldwell. She

spoke on behalf of her husband, Pastor Bob Caldwell. Despite the presence of reporters from the anti-Christian national newspaper, *The Hindu*, and a prevalence of Hindus in the audience, Cathy explained the force behind the work, "I want to celebrate this expression of God's love for His children. God is a Father to the fatherless, a helper to the helpless. His love is evident in the children who are here. I thank Jesus Christ for giving us this opportunity."

Caring for this most-overlooked segment of the Indian population is rooted in what Cathy and Bob Caldwell see as a divine appointment. Cathy explained, "Three years ago a woman came to the Bible College up in Koppal while Bob and I were visiting there. This lady was desperate and looking for help. She told us her husband

had died of AIDS. She had AIDS and she thought her little girl did too." During the last decade AIDS has swept the nation. It's estimated that 10% of the country's population suffers from the disease. Koppal has a particularly high incidence.

The Caldwell's weren't sure what to do, but they knew that God would have all the answers. When they boarded the train for the 12-hour ride back to Chapel Missions headquarters in Bangalore the woman and her ill daughter accompanied them. In Bangalore, the Caldwell's and Pastor Guna took immediate action getting the woman and her daughter medical care and shelter. Then they began to explore more ways to help the HIV-infected population.

After much prayer and consideration, God provided the vacant seminary, now called Nazareth, and 55-adjoining-acres at a very reasonable price. Shortly thereafter, 23 acres were donated to CMI, now named Eden. At the dedication the Honorable Minister of Social Welfare Smt. Geetha Jeevan said, "This Home of Hope is really like an Eden with a beautiful atmosphere where the children receive good food and medical aid and are involved in gardening and tending birds and animals."

Good nutrition extends the lives of those infected with HIV. Pastor Guna and his team strive to provide the children with a balanced diet long on fresh and wholesome food. Toward that end, they are assisted by Dr. Jacob, a 71-year-old retired veterinarian and professor of horticulture. He said that his own vision to create an agricultural training center to educate the area's poor farmers "coincides nicely with Calvary Chapel's vision for the HIV-infected children." Under his supervision mangoes, guavas, cherries, gooseberries, and coconut thrive. So



THE CALDWELLS WEREN'T SURE WHAT TO DO, BUT THEY KNEW THAT GOD WOULD HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS.

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Go & Do the Same *(continued from page 5)*

orphanages serving the HIV-positive children are infected themselves. This gives them a meaningful place of service and has a profound impact on those watching. By inviting those who most would reject into the warm embrace of the church, Guna has found a way to win hearts to Christ.

The legacy Pastor Guna and his wife, Victoria, choose to give the people they serve is an honorable identity in Christ: "You are princes and princesses of the King of Kings," he tells the orphan children. "We will treat you with the highest respect and dignity," he tells the outcast. "You are special because Christ has chosen you as His own." The children wear this identity like a badge with huge, joyful smiles, dressed in clean clothes, well groomed, standing strong and healthy. The children's response to "Papa Guna" is also telling when he comes to visit – they run to sit on his lap. That he is a saint of God, there is no doubt.

Genesis World Mission is pleased to partner with Calvary Chapel Boise, parent organization of Calvary Chapel Trust, to deliver high-quality health care to the needy. Genesis' international mission is to provide sustainable health care in countries through such partnerships as a means of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. Serving in countries such as India is not just about preaching the gospel with words. Pastor Guna demonstrates the power of preaching the gospel in action first, preparing the hearts to receive God's ultimate gift of love. According to Guna, from the November 2005 medical outreach to January 2008, about 500 people have come to Christ in the communities that were served.

I'm reminded of the man who was mugged, stabbed, and left for dead on the side of the road. Both a pastor and a priest passed by without stopping – too busy with their schedules and unwilling to get involved. It was a simple man who stopped, gave the man first aid, took him to a place of rest, paid in cash, and left plenty to pay for all his needs. It's obvious who truly demonstrated the love of Jesus Christ, and Jesus' simple response is, "Go and do the same."

Steven Reames is the executive director of Genesis World Mission. He invites you to get involved in the healthcare needs of the vulnerable. To learn more, visit genesisworldmission.org.

Divine Appointment *(continued from page 8)*

do teak and tamarind trees. Chickens provide fresh eggs. Turkeys and ducks are tended. "Most of the children's food is grown right here," he explains.

Dr. Kingsley, supervisor of the local hospital in Nazareth, cares for the children's medical needs. He commended the work of CMI, "When the children come here they are often very sick. With proper nutrition and good care they are happy, playful, hopeful. They are attending school. Calvary Chapel is doing a great service. Like them, each one of us can make a difference," he said, encouraging the crowd to lend their full support to Pastor Guna and his team.

After the official remarks, children from the boys' and girls' homes performed traditional song and dance for the guests. Currently, more than 100 children affected by HIV are cared for at Nazareth, Eden, and the Prayer Garden near Bangalore. Many still need sponsors—people willing to play a role in sharing God's love to those dear to His heart. If you'd like to extend your hand to one of these children, contact the offices of CMI at 208-321-7440.



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at india.chapelmissions.org

Also available online:
training videos, recommended
reading, online payments
for your trip, history of CMI,
child sponsorships, and more.

There are only a few spots left for the February 2009 trip to India.

Visit the child or worker that you sponsor, teach at the Bible College, play with the orphan children, share at a youth retreat, lay hands on and pray for a person stricken with leprosy, hand out food and love to a family suffering with AIDS. Some of these opportunities, and so much more, await you in India.

Prayerfully consider joining next year's Open Your Heart Tour of Chapel Missions India ministries.

The cost of this trip does not include the price of personal preparation, immunizations, or passport and visa application fees.

For more information on current missions, contact our office at Calvary Chapel Boise, 208.321.7440, or email us at info@chapelmissions.org.



chapelmissions
INDIA

2009 MEDICAL MISSIONS

Beginning of Sept, 2009
for 2 weeks

Deposit of \$500 and
application due
by Feb 15, 2009.

Download an application
online at
india.chapelmissions.org

Needed:
Doctors, Physician Assistants,
Optometrists, Lab Techs,
Pharmacy Techs, and Nurses.

A team of health care professionals from Calvary Chapel Boise and other like-minded ministries travel to India each year for a two week medical mission to India. Under the leadership of Pastor L. Gunasekaran, the team typically examines our Home of Hope children, workers, lepers, and slum and village people; many of whom suffer with TB, AIDS, malaria, asthma, and other diseases.

It is our prayer that this outreach be used by the Lord to not only meet the immediate medical needs of the people in India, but to aid our pastors and evangelists in their efforts to reach the poor with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Home of Hope's Lauren Victoria

BY LAUREN PHILLIPS

The reality of life in the slums of inner-city India really hits home when the fruit of the womb happens to be a baby girl. Girls are often killed at birth or abandoned. By God's amazing grace some destitute families hear of the ministry of Chapel Missions India's Homes of Hope and new babies are left at the door in the dark of night, some with their umbilical cords still dangling. One such precious gift of God is Lauren Victoria.

Five years ago Lauren Victoria was found at the doorstep of the Calvary Chapel fellowship in the Manjunatha slum of Bangalore. Pastor Guna and his wife, Victoria, immediately took the neglected newborn in, nursed her from a bottle, cleansed her wounds, wrapped her in swaddling clothes, and said a prayer of thanksgiving that this precious life was spared.

When a child comes to us in this way, she is taken to the hospital for a complete physical. Here it is determined if she is HIV positive or suffering from malnourishment, which is

quite often the case. The local authorities also become involved at this point in time and a notice is posted in the local newspaper giving the family the ability to reclaim their daughter. When no one arrives, the child is legally declared an orphan and is placed in the care of Calvary Chapel Trust, our ministry's name in India, to raise as their own.

In Lauren's case it later became known that she was the sixth female child born to her poor parents. They were simply unable to care for their daughter. Fortunately, they had the presence of mind and heart to bring her to Pastor Guna, whose reputation for caring for the outcasts well known in the slum community.

Once the legal formalities are complete, there is a time of great joy when the new baby is brought home and given a name. Her older sisters at the Home of Hope welcome her with open arms. Guna and Victoria know that each child that shows up on their doorstep is, indeed, a gift from God. What seems like a tragedy is in fact a cause for celebration at the home.

Lauren now lives at the Home of Hope in Nachikuppam and studies at our Calvary Chapel English Medium School. Lauren, who was shunned by her own parents and who would have most certainly died, is growing day by day in God's grace. She is a gifted singer and dancer and her teachers testify to the fact that she is also quite intelligent. She is friendly to her peers and loved by all. Just as the baby Moses was spared by God from death and was brought up in the household of a king, Lauren was likewise spared and is being brought up in the household of the King of Kings. She has been given a life full of hope and promise in Christ.

There are many such children living in the Home of Hope in need of loving sponsors who desire to have a mentoring relationship with a precious child in India. Please ask the Lord if He has a child waiting there for you! For more information on how to become a sponsor please contact the Chapel Missions India office at 208-321-7440 or at info@chapelmissions.org.



ULTHANNA GREW UP IN A HINDU HOME ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BANGALORE, INDIA. FOR HIM, LIFE AS A CHILD AND TEENAGER HAD BECOME VERY SAD AND LONELY. HE LONGED TO BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, AND HAVE FRIENDS WHO GENUINELY LIKED HIM AND CARED ABOUT HIM.

collect money from people to view him. Although this brought temporary companions into Ulthanna's life, he was left feeling empty, alone, and rejected. He suffered much sadness in his heart and wondered why he wasn't born a normal boy. His dad, who took care of him, owned land close to the Prayer Garden by our Home of Hope. The Prayer Garden is set in an open area with hills, palm trees, and beautiful landscape all around. Steve, who was visiting our children at the home, had gone out for a morning walk. It was not long before he came across Ulthanna in an open field. Although they could not communicate as they both spoke different languages, Steve put his hand on Ulthanna's shoulder and motioned him to come with him. Ulthanna later conveyed to us that "when

Paul & Priscilla

BY CATHY CALDWELL

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." -James 1:17

Although his parents were of normal stature, Ulthanna and his sister were born as little people. His height today is probably somewhere around 3'5". Ulthanna grew up in a Hindu home on the outskirts of Bangalore, India. For him, life as a child and teenager had become very sad and lonely. He longed to be like everyone else, and have friends who genuinely liked him and cared about him. In order to make friends, Ulthanna became a pawn in their hands to make money. His so-called friends would use him in a very cruel way. They would take Ulthanna from place to place and show him as some type of freak or clown and

Steve put his hand on my shoulder I felt that he truly cared for me." Ulthanna followed Steve who introduced him to Pastor Guna and the Prayer Garden staff. They invited him to the church service that was taking place, and he went. It was the very first time he had ever gone to church or heard about Jesus. Ulthanna ended up giving his heart to Jesus and took for himself a new name, which is "Paul." God has not only given Paul a new name, but a brand new life, a life worth living. When we spoke with Paul on our visit to India in August, Paul said, "Jesus has brought me so much joy, and I am able to accept the life God gave me." Paul now works for Calvary Chapel. He is the security guard for our church in Bangalore and during the week Paul works at the office, running errands, and helping those on staff. God has blessed Paul with the ultimate gift, a beautiful wife, Priscilla. She also is a little person and God has blessed her with her heart's desire by giving her a husband who is just a little bit taller than she is. Paul gave his wife the name Priscilla when she gave her life to Christ. He wanted them both to have names from people in the New Testament who loved Jesus and gave their all for Him. Paul and Priscilla are expecting their first child in December.

Through this ministry and the lives it has touched, it continues to become even more evident that we have a Father in Heaven who sees and cares for those who are sad, alone, hurting, and needy; those who have no one to help them. His eye is on the sparrow. And God, out of the wellsprings of His love, will bring someone along at the right moment, to lay a hand on a shoulder and say, "I care. You are very loved, and of such great value to Me."



I Left My Heart in India

BY KEVIN HAMILTON

Growing up in the suburbs of southern California, it never crossed my mind that someday my heart would find itself in India. Throughout my school years as I studied geography and cultures of the world, I was really interested in India and her culture. Because of God's future plans for my life, He planted a seed of love into my heart for the Indian people. To make a long story short, I was blessed enough to be given the amazing opportunity to meet my fellow brothers and sisters of India.

Our team flew halfway around the world to do one thing – spread the love that God has blessed each and every one of us with. It was incredible how the presence of Christ in both my heart and theirs ignited the amount of love being displayed among us. It wasn't just confined to our team, though.

Throughout the whole trip, every time I shook hands with an Indian I had an immediate love and peace with them.

It didn't matter what they looked like or what language they spoke, I felt as if they were my own family.

The first moment in India that struck my heart with love was an encounter with an older woman in the leper colony. As I was momentarily trying to figure out where my team had gone, I was passing by an alley between two small village houses. I turned my head down the narrow alley and I noticed an older woman sitting alone on a step eating a small portion of rice. She saw me and waived her hand, kindly offering me some of her rice. I stood with sheer amazement and thought to myself, "I did not look hungry.

I did not look in need. I did not look poor. I did not look abandoned or malnourished. Yet, she offered me what very little she had for herself. Why?" That simple gesture of kindness opened my eyes to a whole new way of showing the love of Christ.

"No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because he has given us of His Spirit."

-1 John 4:12-13

True love was definitely present. Shaking the hands of the lepers, there were no thoughts of paranoia or fear of contracting leprosy. There were no worries of germs. There was just pure love for one another – it's just as simple as that; yet the feeling was indescribable.

I was much more peaceful and happy when I was around my Indian brothers and sisters in Christ. I left for the trip thinking that my normal daily routine would be spun out of momentum for a couple of weeks. I was wrong. What had seemed to be a comfortable "American" routine turned out to be the complete opposite. I found that I didn't miss my worldly belongings one bit; and when I returned, I didn't want to go back to the my "American" way of life. I didn't want to check my email, text message, or even watch another minute of TV. I was perfectly happy without the many distractions – which I had previously struggled with. It was just me, God, and one big family in Christ.

Playing with the children at the Homes of Hope and leper colonies were by far the most impacting moments of the whole experience. The little time I spent in India was the most spiritually exhilarating and exciting time of my life. I went on this trip to bless the people of India with what God has shared with me. I left India with a blessing that no man can fathom. I will never forget the faces of the people that I met or those that forever touched my heart. I'm eighteen and I've already left my heart in India.



Sponsorship Opportunities

AIDS Families

Be a practical help for those who suffer with this dreaded virus. Your sponsorship ensures that AIDS sufferers and their families, under the spiritual guidance of CMI's local pastors, have proper nutrition, access to medical help, and shelter. (\$35/mo)

Bible College Students

Those serious about full-time ministry attend CMI's two-year Bible College which includes a comprehensive study of the entire Bible and classes on teaching, counseling, and discipling new believers. Each graduate becomes an evangelist working under a pastor. Once he has opened a Children's Center and/or a church in an area not yet reached by the gospel, he will become a pastor himself. (\$35/mo)

Children's Centers

More than 2,000 children are reached every week in our centers throughout India. Run by our evangelists, these centers introduce children to Jesus Christ. They are also tutored in basic education and hygiene. There are opportunities to open countless more as God continues to give us favor with slum and village leaders. (\$35/mo)

Christian Boarding School Partnerships

CMI has partnered with two other Christian Indian organizations which place children trapped in poverty and illiteracy into Christian Boarding Schools. Here they are properly fed, clothed, and given both a spiritual and academic foundation for their future. In Gujarat, our FMPB school partnership is \$20/mo. In Bangalore, the CCCYC school partnership is \$15/mo.

Church Planting

In order to effectively minister God's love, native pastors and their families move into the harsh living conditions of city slums or remote villages – living alongside the people they are called to serve. Modest house-churches quickly grow and the need for a church becomes great. Once established, the church works toward becoming self sufficient. (\$75/mo)

Homes of Hope Orphanages

Through our Children's Centers and Church ministries pastors and evangelists find children whose lives are so desperate they need outside support to survive. These children are brought into our Homes of Hope where, through supportive relationships with sponsors, they are given complete long-term care in a loving Christian atmosphere by Chapel Missions India staff. (\$35/mo)



Native Evangelists

After completing Bible College, these men and their families move from their homes into areas where the gospel is not being preached. They begin home churches and establish Children's Centers where they share the gospel with the people God has called them to serve. (\$35/mo)

Please note: All sponsorships are shared. This enables CMI to keep the cost to you, the individual sponsor, more affordable. Shared sponsorship enables us to cover the actual monthly expenses for the one sponsored.

Upcoming Events

Open Your Heart Tour (Feb '09)

There are still a few spots open if you'd like to join us. Applications online at india.chapelmissions.org.

Medical Mission (Sept '09)

Team selection and \$500 deposit due by Feb 15. Team will serve lepers, AIDS patients, and many others. Ophthalmologists and MDs needed. Applications online at india.chapelmissions.org.

Current Needs

Special Projects

Church Planting

There is an immediate need for seven churches to be built in Bangalore and Hukkeri. \$60,000

The ministry in Bangalore and in Nazareth are both in need of vehicles; a jeep for \$12,000 and a van or bus for \$16,000. These are multipurpose vehicles used to take children to doctor visits, school, and other functions.

Sponsorship

Children's Centers

There is a need for \$12,449 in monthly sponsorships.

Begin your sponsorship online! Visit india.chapelmissions.org. 

I would like to make a monthly commitment to help "Fuel the Flame" for the following ministry:

- Church Planting (\$75/mo) Children's Center (\$35/mo) Bible College Student (\$35/mo)
 Native Evangelist (\$35/mo) AIDS Families (\$35/mo)

Child Sponsorship: Home of Hope (\$35/mo) Boarding School (\$15 or \$20/mo circle one)

(You'll receive a personal profile and picture of the person you sponsor and also have the opportunity to correspond personally with him or her.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Comments/Questions _____

Sharing Their Experience...

The desire to travel the world has been a part of my life ever since I can remember. I thought I was prepared for what awaited me on my most recent departure from the States, but upon my arrival in Bangalore I found this not to be the case. Forsaking any apprehensions, along with American clothing, we set out. As Christians, we are representatives of Christ; this was made real to me in a whole new way as, regardless of religion, we were watched by countless Indians. Regardless of the observer, it was humbling to realize that the only thing we had to offer was Christ.

Martinah Schaefer
Calvary Chapel Boise, Idaho



What a great blessing it was to find David Benjamin to sponsor. The Lord was ahead of us in every step of our trip. We came to bless but we were the ones blessed in so many ways.

Harry Holton
Church on the Rock
Florence, Oregon

Visit <http://india.chapelmissions.org>.

Download trip applications, set up automatic donations, donate to multiple areas with one form, view training materials, download past issues of HOPE magazine, and more.

208.321.7440

info@chapelmissions.org

Financial Accountability: Stateside, CMI's staff is made up of volunteer servants. The production of this publication is also a ministry of volunteers. In India CMI has 129 full-time staff, and a number of part-time staff. All of the donations given to CMI are given directly to India and the ministry specified. CMI (called Calvary Chapel Trust in India) has gained official recognition as a charitable organization by the central government of India. As such, the Trust must report every rupee of foreign funds it receives. The Trust is audited annually by the government of India. A CMI Financial Report may be obtained by contacting Calvary Chapel Boise at 208.321.7440.



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